be in Pakistani jails. While Pakistan has consistently denied their presence in their jails, they have at our request undertaken to conduct a fresh enquiry into the matter. We are continuing to press Pakistan on this issue.

Specialised Police Force to protect Historic Monuments

*134. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI; DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the creation of a specialised police force vested with the sole responsibility of protecting the country's myriad historic monuments; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Complaints from Training Institutions for Women in distress

*135. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints from training institutions for women in distress for not releasing the amounts sanctioned/granted to them; and

(b) what are the names of such institutions in various States which have been closed for non-availability of adequate funds and harassment from bureaucrats/administrators?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such case has been brought to the notice of the Central Government.

Schemes for better Management of University System

*136. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has recently initiated several new schemes for better management of the University system in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission was established under an Act of Parliament in 1956 to make provision for coordination and determination of standards in universities. The Commission has since its inception taken various measures and formulated a number of innovative schemes to achieve its objectives. In Pursuance of the thrust areas identified by the National Policy on Education—1986, the U.G.C. has recently initiated a number of schemes in the higher education sector. The schemes initiated by the Commission for better management of the university system in the country include the following:

(i) *Scheme of Autonomous Colleges*

The major objectives of this scheme are de-centralisation of academic administration, freedom to colleges to frame their own courses, provide for teaching and conduct of examinations, etc., encouragement to innovation and experimentation. Since the announcement of the Policy, 76 colleges have been conferred autonomy, bringing the total number of autonomous colleges in the country to 96.

(ii) *State Councils of Higher Education*

The U.G.C. formulated certain guidelines for establishment of State Councils of Higher Education by the State Governments. State level planning and coordination of higher education will be done through these Councils. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has already set up a State Council of Higher Education.

(iii) *New Model of an affiliating University*

The Commission has appointed a Committee to study various aspects of a new model of an affiliating university and to lay down suitable guidelines for the purpose. The new model will not have any direct teaching programmes but will concentrate on the development of colleges with a view to promoting excellence and standards of education in the colleges.

(iv) *Alternate management patterns for universities*

The U.G.C. has appointed a Committee to review the existing management patterns and organisational structure of universities in the country. It is envisaged that the recommendations of this Committee when finalised would form the basis for new university legislation.

(v) *Inter-University Centres*

To provide common facilities for University Scientists, the U.G.C. has established a Nuclear Science Centre in JNU Campus at Delhi and an Inter-University Centre in Astronomy and Astro-physics at Pune.

(vi) *Accreditation and assessment machinery*

A report on the development of a mechanism for accredition and assessment of institutions of higher education for maintaining and raising the quality has been prepared by an Expert Committee. The report is presenty being discussed among the academics.

(vii) *Perfomance appraisal for teachers*

The U.G.C. has formulated a scheme of performance appraisal for teachers which has been circulated to all the universities and colleges.

(viii) *National qualifying test for appointment of Lecturers*

The U.G.C. is presently working out the modalities for implementation of a national qualifying test for appointment of Lecturers in consultation with the State Governments and other agencies.

Freight charges on coal

*137. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways have increased freight charges on coal by 11 per cent;

(b) whether it is a fact that the actual freight increase in many cases comes to 25 per cent as the old rate of coal freight of Rs. 333.20 for 1277 km. from DOMANAHILL to ASARWA has increased to Rs. 416.30 and the old rate of freight from Koria to Asarwa having a distance of 1270 km. has increased from Rs. 328.10 to Rs. 396.70; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for such anomalies and how they are proposed to be removed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) In accordance with the Budget proposals there has been general increase of 11 per cent in freight rates and classification of certain commodities including coal has been raised by two steps. The train load rate for coal for the